

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ أَنْ خَلَقَ لَكُمْ مِنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ أَزْوَاجًا لِتَسْكُنُوا إِلَيْهَا
وَجَعَلَ بَيْنَكُمْ مَوَدَّةً وَرَحْمَةً إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِقَوْمٍ يَتَفَكَّرُونَ.

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

خَيْرُكُمْ خَيْرُكُمْ لِأَهْلِهِ ...

FAMILY: A NEST OF TRUST, LOYALTY, AND COMPASSION

Honorable Muslims!

One of the greatest blessings our Almighty Lord has bestowed upon us is the family. The family is a sanctuary of trust and loyalty, founded by a man and a woman who are lawfully joined in marriage according to the command of Allah and the Sunnah of the Prophet (saw), and blessed with the greater number of children and flourishes across generations, encompassing grandparents and grandchildren alike. The family is a haven of compassion and mercy as stated in the verse: **“And one of His signs is that He created for you spouses from among yourselves so that you may find comfort in them. And He has placed between you compassion and mercy. Surely in this are signs for people who reflect.”**¹ The family is the only institution that has no true alternative and can never be replaced.

Dear Believers!

Our Lord Almighty informs that the family is a source of well-being by stating, **وَاللَّهُ جَعَلَ لَكُمْ مِنْ بُيُوتِكُمْ سَكَنًا**

“And Allah has made your homes a place to rest...”²

Both the mother and the father play vital roles in establishing and maintaining a peaceful family environment. Children need a father’s authority and discipline just as much as they need a mother’s tenderness and compassion. Therefore, the responsibility of educating and disciplining children, and raising them to become upright human beings, should not be left solely to caregivers, schools, televisions, tablets, or computers. Because when children are unable to find compassion and mercy in their parents, they begin to seek security, love, and affection elsewhere, often leading to a distortion of their natural disposition.

Esteemed Muslims!

The preservation of human nature can only be ensured through conscious families. Generations that remain loyal to their national and spiritual values are raised within a faithful and nurturing family environment. A strong society is built upon peaceful families. For this reason, no one, regardless of their role or position within the family, should speak, act, or behave in a manner that disrupts the family’s peace or undermines the dignity of the mother and father.

Men and women, young and old, no one should ever deem any form of violence appropriate toward another. Whatever the justification, one must understand that they cannot take a life which Allah has forbidden them to take. They should understand that all forms of abuse, especially the sexual abuse of children, which has sadly become widespread, are cursed and utterly immoral behaviours, and no child’s privacy or dignity should ever be violated or coveted.

Dear Believers!

In one of his hadiths, our Prophet (saw) says, **“... Whoever among you can marry, should marry, because it helps him lower his gaze and guard his modesty...”**³ Indeed, marriage is a fundamental necessity of human nature. It is a sacred beginning that brings peace and happiness in this world and leads to eternal bliss in the Hereafter. Marriage is a safe harbor that preserves a person’s dignity and respect, shielding them from evil and sin. It is the surest way to safeguard our souls and future generations, and to build a pure and healthy society. For this reason, it is a religious, moral, and social responsibility to support our young people in establishing a family home in a modest and simple manner, free from ostentation and waste, when they reach the age of marriage. The Messenger of Allah’s (saw) warning in this regard is quite clear: **“The most blessed marriage is the one with the least difficulty and burden.”**⁴

Dear Muslims!

Let us adopt the hadith of our beloved Prophet (saw) as our guiding motto: **“The best of you is the one who is best to his family...”**⁵ Let us cultivate love and affection, kindness and grace within our families. Let us be vigilant against harmful trends that threaten the family structure and cast a shadow over our future. Let us join hands and unite our hearts to remove all obstacles to our family happiness, unity, solidarity, and brotherhood. Let us not forget that protecting and strengthening the family is not solely the responsibility of the parents. Everyone with responsibility in this regard, including all institutions and organizations, should strive diligently to fulfil their duties properly.

Let our concluding remarks be our beloved Prophet’s following warning: **كَفَى بِالْمَرْءِ إِثْمًا أَنْ يُضَيِّعَ مَنْ يَبْقُوتُ**

“It is sufficient sin for a man that he neglects him whom he maintains.”⁶

¹ Rum, 30/21.

² Nahl, 16/80.

³ Bukhari, Nikah, 3.

⁴ Ibn Hanbal, VI, 83.

⁵ Tirmidhi, Manaqib, 63.

⁶ Abu Dawud, Zakat, 45.

